

USER ACCESS SYSTEM USING PROXIES FOR ACCESSING A NETWORK

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Apparatus and methods of using proxies for accessing a  
computer network, e.g. through a publicly accessible  
10 network, is disclosed. A connection between the client  
and a network server is established not directly but  
through a client proxy device located at the client and a  
proxy server at the local area network. The connection  
between the client proxy device at the client and a proxy  
15 server at the local area network may be established  
through a firewall restricting access to the local area  
network and/or client. In establishing the connection,  
ports of the client proxy device at the client side may  
be mapped in multiple operations to the ports of network  
20 servers of the local area network. The invention allows  
the client to utilize common network protocols such as  
for example ftp, http, IMAP and similar at the client  
side to access data or services available at the local  
area network side.

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